



Riffles & Pools

HOOSIER RIVERWATCH-INDIANA'S VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING PROGRAM

Water Monitoring Makes a Difference Contest

VOLUME 6, NO. 4

WINTER 2001/2002

INSIDE

Success Stories

Contest..... 1

Grant Applications..2

2002 Schedule 2

Volunteer Instructor

Training 2

GREEN & Vernier

Workshops 2

In Memory of

John Rouch 3

Youth Awards/Grants/

Events 3

Websites 3

Adopt-A-River

Hall of Fame..... 4

New Adopt-A-River

Groups 4

Hoosier Riverwatch volunteers are very active! We know you're doing a great job testing water quality and submitting a vast amount of data to our Internet database. In the past 15 months, 150 volunteers have registered 287 monitoring sites and submitted over 1800 data sets. What's really incredible is that these individual volunteers have enabled another 6400 adults and students to participate in water monitoring, too! However, we would like to know more about your activities and how your volunteer monitoring is making a difference in Indiana.

So, we decided to hold a contest!

Who? Individuals or groups trained and participating in Hoosier Riverwatch stream monitoring. The contest has two categories: (1) GREEN monitoring kit users, and (2) Hach kit or advanced equipment users.

What? We would like to hear your stories about your activities and accomplishments.

- civic action: letters to government representatives/attendance at local meetings
- partnerships with government, businesses, organizations, other schools in community
- changes in the lives, attitudes, and behaviors of students (increased involvement in schoolwork or community action), neighbors and/or community members
- education and community outreach
- implementation of water protection projects

When? Contest deadline is June 1, 2002

Why? We have Prizes! (See *What Will We Get?* below.) But more importantly, Hoosier Riverwatch can use these stories in annual reports and grant applications to justify continuation of the program, our budget, and our funding requests. In addition, we often receive requests for examples of volunteers'

actions for national publications, newsletters, news articles, and videos. We can pass these stories along and brag about all of our great volunteers and the cool things happening in Indiana!

How? Your entry should be typewritten and kept to 1000 words or less. You may submit photographs, artwork, and other supporting documentation. Please include the following information in your entry:

- Name of trained Riverwatch volunteer
- Volunteer address, phone, & e-mail
- Name of organization (if applicable)
- Number of adults & students involved
- Years of Riverwatch participation
- Category: GREEN or Hach/Advanced
- Who & what were involved?
- When & where did your activities/events take place?
- Why is your story a success & how did your actions/events make a difference?

What Will I/We Get? All entries will receive a recognition certificate. Winning entries will receive a plaque and their stories will be featured in *Riffles & Pools* newsletter. They will also receive one or more of the following prizes: bugID flash cards, an interactive CD-ROM that teaches water monitoring methods, GREEN Protecting Our Watersheds Action Guide, and a lab-quality pH meter. In addition, entries involving youth will be considered for two national events: GREEN Institute for Action & the National Youth Watershed Summit. See pp 2,3.

**There's still time
to make your own success story!**

Submit your entry to the Hoosier Riverwatch office. Contact information including mailing address, fax and emails are on the back page!

Riverwatch Grant Applications

Applications are now available for 2002 water monitoring equipment grants. **The application deadline is March 15!** Grant recipients must monitor at least 4 times a year for 2 years, and submit their data to Hoosier Riverwatch. Equipment grants include materials needed to conduct physical, biological and chemical stream sampling. You can apply for Standard or Advanced water monitoring grants.

Applications and additional information are available online at: www.IN.gov/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch/vsm/grant.html

You can also contact Mandy at 317/541-0617 or riverinfo@dnr.state.in.us to request a copy!

2002 Training Schedule

All Level 1 & 2 training workshops scheduled at this point are listed below. For the most current listing, check the Riverwatch website: www.IN.gov/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch

If you would like information about scheduling and hosting a workshop in your area, please contact us at 317/541-0617 or email Mandy at riverinfo@dnr.state.in.us

March 9 (Level 1)
Jennings Co-Muscatatuck County Park - Contact Kim Lampert at 812/346-3411x3 or kim.lampert@in.usda.gov

April 13, 14 (Level 1 & 2)
Lawrence County-Contact the Cynthia Merrill at cynthiam@bigfoot.com or 812/537-1277

April 25 (Level 1) Camp Gallahue Teacher's Workshop, Brown County
Contact Hoosier Heartland RC&D at 317/290-3250. This workshop has a fee & the deadline is March 22.

May 3, 4 (Level 1 & 2)
Ft Harrison State Park, Indianapolis - Contact the NREC at 317/562-1338 or nrec@dnr.state.in.us

June 6,7 (Level 1 & 2)
Terre Haute - Call the Vigo SWCD 812/232-0193

June 21 (Level 1) Franklin
Contact Jennifer Boyle at the Johnson County SWCD at 317/736-9540 or jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org

June 28, 29 (Level 1 & 2)
Ft Harrison State Park, Indianapolis - Contact the NREC at 317/562-1338 or nrec@dnr.state.in.us

June 25, 26 (Level 1 & 2)
Southwestern IN - Call Amy Steeples at 812/897-2840 or Rick Obenshain at 812/385-4849

July 19, 20 (Level 1 & 2)
Clinton County - Contact Leah Harden at the Clinton County SWCD at 765/659-1223 x3 or leah-harden@iaswcd.org

August 9 (Level 1)
Bloomington-Contact Steve Cotter at 812/349-3736 or cotters@city.bloomington.in.us

Contact the local host to register. Although workshops are free, you must register in advance. Workshops are held from 9am-4pm. Level 1 Introductory training completes requirements to begin monitoring. Level 2 training is for more advanced educators and volunteers. Level 1 is a prerequisite for Level 2.

Volunteer Instructors

The third Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteer Water Monitoring Instructor workshop is coming up soon! If you think you might like to be a Volunteer Instructor, contact us to receive a "job description" and application form. The next all-expenses-paid training workshop will be held at Camp Alexander Mack in Kosciusko County on **March 22-23**. (Lodging will also be provided on March 21 upon request.)

✳ **The application deadline is February 15, 2002!**

We now have eleven Volunteer Instructors throughout the state in these counties and locations (Elkhart, Kosciusko, Tippecanoe, Delaware, Jefferson, Floyd, the NW Region, SW Region, and SE Region). If you or your group would like to receive training, monitoring assistance, help obtaining the latitude/longitude of your stream site using a GPS receiver, or answers to your many water monitoring questions - contact your local Volunteer Instructor! Check out their new page on our website www.IN.gov/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch to see who is in your area!

Special Advanced Workshops

GREEN Community Action Training

Hoosier Riverwatch will partner with Earthforce GREEN to present a special community action workshop this spring/summer. The joint workshop will be based on GREEN's Protecting Our Watersheds (POW) action guide. POW builds upon Mitchell & Stapp's "Field Manual for Water Quality Monitoring" by helping science and watershed teachers prepare for and conduct effective civic action projects with their students. "Learners of all ages are more motivated when they can see the usefulness of what they are learning and when they can use that information to do something that has an impact on others - especially their local community." (National Research Council, 1999 report.) To order or learn more about the POW guide, go to www.green.org. Workshop date & location TBA.

GREEN Institute for Action (July 29-August 2, St. Paul, MN) This event will bring teams of 3-4 teachers and coordinators from selected watershed organizations together for labs, lectures, field trips, and historical & cultural perspectives on monitoring, watershed protection, and taking action. Entries to the contest on page 1 will also be considered for participation in this exciting event!

Vernier Equipment Training: Calculators, Computers, and Probes for Water Monitoring

Vernier will hold a special training on November 4, 2002, from 1-5pm at the NREC in Indianapolis. Learn how to use LabPro equipment and accompanying software programs for performing chemical monitoring and instantly downloading and graphing the results! To learn more about Vernier, go to www.vernier.com! Call us to register!

Indiana Loses A Great Friend

By Sarah Hippensteel

On October 10, 2001, the rivers and streams across Indiana lost a great advocate through the passing of John Rouch.

John was a dedicated person who worked countless volunteer hours to raise awareness of the value, protection, and quality of the rivers and streams in Indiana. Before retirement, John taught Biology for 30+ years and served as the Science Department Chair at Fairfield High School in Benton (Elkhart County).

One of the founders of the Water Watchers of Indiana organization, John worked tirelessly to educate both students and teachers on how the topic of rivers could be integrated into any subject - from English to Math. Through the years he served as both President and Coordinator of the Indiana Rivers and Streams project for the organization. He was instrumental in applying for and managing the grant funding that took the program state-wide.

John also tested surface water quality for the Kosciusko County Health Department and a St. Joseph River Basin grant project. He used his experience to invent tools that made monitoring in the field easier, including the "extension sampler" in the Hoosier Riverwatch Manual.

Not solely focused on rivers, John took great pride in his family, often talking about his children and grand-

children. When his grandchildren were born he did not just carry their pictures in his wallet - he proudly wore their faces on a t-shirt! He was an active member of EEAI for many years and was a recipient of their Howard Michaud Award. An avid birder, he was a long time member of the Tippecanoe Chapter of the Audubon Society.

John was a teacher, mentor, and friend to me - and to many others throughout Indiana. He will be greatly missed.

"Rivers know this, there is no hurry, we shall get there someday."

Sarah Hippensteel served as Riverwatch Coordinator from 1996 through 1997, and as Water Watchers of Indiana Secretary in 1997. She is currently living in Ohio and works as the Executive Director of the Little Miami River Partnership.



Youth Awards/Grants/Events

President's Environmental Youth Awards Program

Kids of any age - kindergarten through high school - can enter the EPA's President's Environmental Youth Awards as individuals or as a group. All students who complete an environmental project and submit an application will receive a signed certificate from the President of the U.S. in recognition of their accomplishments. One outstanding project from each EPA region will be presented with a Presidential plaque at an award ceremony. The deadline is July 31 - go to www.epa.gov/enviroed/award for more information.

Captain Planet Foundation

The Captain Planet Foundation funds and supports hands-on environmental projects for children and youth (elementary through high school). Their objective is to encourage innovative programs that empower youth to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. The range generally awarded is \$250-\$2500. The deadline is March 31-apply online at www.captainplanetfdn.org

National Youth Environmental Summit

America's Clean Water Foundation and the Smithsonian Institution will co-host a national forum to bring together approximately 200 students and 50 teachers from across the nation at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Institute in Easton, Maryland. Each state will select four student delegates and one teacher to attend the forum in October 2002. More details will be available in upcoming *Riffles & Pools* issues. You can also keep on eye on the Year of Clean Water website: www.yearofcleanwater.org.

Riverwatch Website Updates

Check out these updated items to be sure you're included on the lists and that the information is correct!
www.IN.gov/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch

- ✳ Volunteer Participant lists (watershed and alphabetical)
- ✳ Grant recipient lists (alphabetical and by category)
- ✳ Grant applications, grant reports, newsletters
- ✳ Adopt-a-River participant list, application forms, reports
- ✳ Calendar of events
- ✳ Links to local, state & national monitoring resources

Other Interesting Websites

2001 Indiana Annual State of the Environment Report - You can download each section in pdf format or request a hard copy be sent to you by mail. www.in.gov/idem/soe

An Interactive Watershed Activity - www1.umn.edu/bellmuse/mnideals/watershed

Aquatic Bug Monitoring 101 from the Utah State University National Aquatic Monitoring Center (aka The Bug Lab) - www.usu.edu/buglab/bugs101.htm

Minnesota Primer on Rivers - www.shorelandmanagement.org/depth/rivers

Adopt-A-River Hall of Fame

Most Trash Removed

Frankfort High School removed 16 tons from Prairie Creek

Most Participants

Friends of Sugar Creek have submitted 98 liability waivers

Longest Section Adopted

Wildcat Guardians have adopted the entire length of Wildcat Creek from Kokomo to Lafayette

Most Cleanups Performed

4-H Fishing Team has performed 8 cleanups since May 2000 on the White River near Freedom

2nd place - four groups have held 6 cleanup events:

Friends of Sugar Creek

Henry Brunk Ditch Cleanup Team

Patoka South Fork Watershed Steering Committee

US Geological Survey (White River)

Most Unique or Strange Objects Removed

toilet	lawn mower	hot water heater
sink	diapers	air conditioner
telephone	25' wooden bridge	bicycle



Welcome 3 New Adopt-A-River Groups!

Friends of the Muscatatuck River Society

Muscatatuck River, North Vernon

H. Hartman's Clean Water Volunteers

Elkhart River and Unnamed Ditch, Albion

Izaak Walton League, Diana Chapter

Kankakee River, Shelby

We welcome these groups to the Adopt-A-River program. Forty-five groups have joined the AAR program since 1998!

Riffles & Pools is a quarterly publication of Hoosier Riverwatch.

Lyn Hartman, Hoosier Riverwatch Coordinator

Mandy Burk, Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator

Fort Harrison State Park - NREC

5785 Glenn Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216-1066

Phone (317)541-0617 // Fax (317)562-0790

E-mail: HoosierRiverwatch@dnr.state.in.us

Website: www.IN.gov/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch

Hoosier Riverwatch is a program of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Soil Conservation and Purdue University. Additional support received from the IDEM 319 grant program.

Cover design by Deb Fairhurst, Information Specialist IDNR and Purdue.

Printed on recycled paper.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

HOOSIER RIVERWATCH
Fort Harrison State Park - NREC
5785 Glenn Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216-1066

